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easternmennonite.org

Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability

Relating to Coronavirus/COVID-19

The World Health Organization has classified the novel Coronavirus, COVID-19, impact on global health as a pandemic. The virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to spread mainly from person to person, primarily through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes. These droplets can land in the mouths or noses of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs. Spread is more likely when people are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).

Eastern Mennonite School, The School, has put in place protective measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19; however, The School cannot guarantee that you or your child(ren) will not become infected with COVID-19. Students attending classes or other activities on campus increase the risk for themselves, their family, teachers, and others nearby them of contracting COVID-19.

EMS will do our best to meet and/or exceed the safety guidelines described in the [Phase Guidance for Virginia's Schools](#). The School's specific Phase III COVID Mitigation Health Plans for the Virginia Department of Education are found on EMS's website. Several required highlights include:

- Home Health Screening for every student as recommended by the CDC.
- Face masks covering the mouth and nose when indoors.
- Six foot spacing of student seats within classrooms and efforts to physically distance as best we can during the school day.

The School cannot promise that even with the steps we are taking, that your child will not be exposed to COVID-19. Therefore, if you choose for your child to attend in-person classes, you acknowledge the contagious nature of COVID-19 and voluntarily assume the risk that you and your child(ren) may be exposed to or infected by COVID-19 by coming to our campus, attending Eastern Mennonite School, and participating in School activities, and that such exposure or infection may result in personal injury, illness, permanent disability, or death. You further acknowledge and understand the risk of becoming exposed to or infected by COVID-19 may result from or be caused by the actions, omissions, or negligence of yourself or others, including other Eastern Mennonite School families, School employees, or other third parties.

By choosing to bring your child(ren) to the School, you, jointly and severally, for yourself(ves), your child(ren) and all of yours and your child(ren)'s respective guardians, heirs, executors, personal and legal representatives, estates, beneficiaries, administrators, successors and assigns (all of the foregoing, collectively the "Releasers"), do hereby waive, release and discharge, indemnify, hold harmless, and promise not to sue, the School, and its officers, directors, trustees, shareholders, owners, managers, partners, employees, staff, volunteers, supervisors, and all of their respective successors and assigns, as well as any person or entity acting by, through, under or in concert with any of the foregoing persons or entities (the School and all persons and entities released herein are sometimes collectively referred to as the "Released Parties"), of and from any and all liability and/or claims, causes of action, suits, damages, disputes, injury,

disability, death, costs and expenses, and demands of any nature whatsoever, known or unknown, suspected or unsuspected, at law or in equity, vested or contingent, against any or all of the Released Parties which you, your child(ren) and any of the Releasors has, had, or may have against any or all of the Released Parties by reason of being exposed to or infected by COVID-19 as a result of choosing to bring your child(ren) to the School.

Health Safety Commitment

To prevent the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the potential risk of exposure to all parties, we are conducting a simple screening questionnaire with this waiver. Your participation is important to help us take precautionary measures to protect you, your Child(ren) and everyone on campus. **You will be asked to respond to these questions.**

1. Do you commit following the CDC recommended Daily Home Screening for Students before leaving for The School every day?
2. Do you commit to keep your child(ren) home and if they are knowingly sick or presenting symptoms of COVID-19 and report their illness to The School?
3. Do you commit to follow the "Return-to-School Policies" as described by the CDC following any illness?
4. Has your child had close contact with or been diagnosed with COVID-19 within the last 30 days?*
5. Has your child experienced any of the listed symptoms within the last 14 days?** (fever, chills, cough, sore throat, respiratory illness, difficulty breathing, or loss of taste or smell)

** If the answer is "yes" to questions 4 or 5, access to campus activity will be denied until a physician's note is delivered to and accepted by Eastern Mennonite School's administration and/or school nurse.

[Google Form Link](#)

- [Assumption of the Risk and Waiver of Liability](#)
- [Health Safety Commitment](#)
- [EMS Attendance Plan](#)